

REMARKS**I. Status of the Claims:**

Claims 1, 3-8, 11, 21 and 37-49 are pending in the application.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 3-8, 11, 21 and 37-49 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced by this Amendment.

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1, 3-8, 11, 21 and 37-49 would be pending.

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶2

Claims 1, 3-8, 11, 21 and 37-49 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

To address the Examiner's concerns, Applicants have amended claims 1, 3-8, 11, 21 and 37-49 to address the following:

[1] The Examiner alleges that features of the first and third domain do not merit patentable weight and are simply part of the preamble. Claim 1 and the other system/apparatus claims have been amended to clearly reflect that the first and third domain and their claimed features are part of the body of the claim.

[2] The Examiner alleges that, in claim 1, the claimed means elements for the second domain raises antecedent concerns and appear to be repetitive. Claim 1 has been amended to address antecedent basis concerns and redundancies in the claim language. The other independent claims including the method claims have similarly been amended to address the same.

[3] The Examiner alleges that, in claim 1, the language “communication means prevents the first domain . . .” is indefinite. This feature in claim 1 and the other independent claims has been deleted.

[4] The Examiner requests clarification as to the language “an order” which is stopped in claim 11. Claim 11 as well as the other claims rejected on the same basis have been amended to reflect that the order is the “parts order”.

[5] The Examiner requests clarification as to the “connections” referred to in claim 1 in the last wherein clause. Claim 1 and the other claims rejected on the same basis have been amended to reflect that “a plurality of connections between the first, second and third domains are made possible on a network in a tree structure”.

[6] The Examiner request clarification of the method claims 21, 37 and 42-49, particularly as to the interaction between functions performed in the first, second and third domains. The claims as amended are believed to provide sufficient clarity as to the functions of and interactions between the first, second and third domains.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4457.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4457.

Respectfully submitted,
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